

To: Director and Laboratory Staff  
From: Survey and Appraisal  
Subject: SURVEY NOTES

FARM SITUATION AND GENERAL BUSINESS  
A C T I V I T Y

PRICES, WAGES, AND NATIONAL INCOME CONTINUE TO ADVANCE

Economic activity has attained a high pitch, with output and employment at new postwar highs. Under the impact of growing military expenditures further expansion is in prospect. Along with the surge in consumer buying which has been accentuated by the Korean situation, business plans for capital outlays for plant and equipment have been revised upward. National income has risen to record levels reflecting higher prices as well as expanding output.

Prices continue to advance although at a slower pace than in July. In late September, the BLS weekly index of wholesale prices was about 8 percent higher than before the Korean conflict and only a little below the all-time high established in mid-August 1948. Wholesale prices of textile products and building materials were at new record highs.

The round of wage increases now underway will tend, together with higher raw material costs, to reinforce upward pressures on prices, particularly those of industrial commodities. The advance in prices of farm products has slowed, and seasonal increases in supplies will restrain further price gains for most of the remainder of the year.

Demand and Price Situation, Sept. 1950, p. 1.

C O T T O N   L I N T

TIGHT COTTON SUPPLY SITUATION SEEN FOR 1950-51

Developments in the past month point to an even tighter cotton supply situation in 1950-51 than was previously evident. The third official report on the cotton crop in the United States gives an estimate of 9.9 million 500-pound bales, or about 9.7 million running bales, a reduction of some 400,000 bales as compared with the estimate in the August report.

The world cotton crop in 1950-51 may total only 27 million bales which is 4 million bales less than in 1949-50. The real significance of this prospective drop can be seen in the fact that last season world consumption totaled more than 29 million bales. From the standpoint of world demand, therefore, the outlook for textiles in 1950-51 seems at least as good if not considerably better than in the preceding season, and the losses which cotton will doubtless sustain in the competition with rayon, seem unlikely to be more than marginal in view of the acute shortage of rayon supply. Since world consumption of cotton in 1949-50 amounted to almost 29-1/2 million bales, and since on present prospects this can be regarded as a minimum for 1950-51, it is clear that with production tentatively estimated at 27 million bales, a draft of at least 2-1/2 million bales on world stock is in prospect.

"Cotton", International Cotton Advisory Committee, Sept. 1950, p. 1.



## NO PLANTING OR MARKETING RESTRICTIONS FOR 1951 COTTON CROP

Prospects of a short supply of some grades of cotton led the Secretary of Agriculture to announce that rigid government planting and marketing restrictions, which are in effect this year, will be withdrawn for the 1951 crop. The 1951 crop, however, will be covered by Government price supports. Mr. Brannon did not say at what levels prices will be supported.

Journal of Commerce, Oct. 4, 1950, p. 1.

## 16,000,000 BALES IN 1951 SET AS PRODUCTION GOAL

A production goal of 16,000,000 bales of cotton in 1951 has been set by the Secretary of Agriculture. Announcement of the objective of vastly increased cotton production during the coming season came less than two weeks after the Industry-wide Cotton Mobilization Committee had urged Secretary Brannon to act quickly to set a "production objective of 16,800,000 bales" of cotton for 1951 and to take steps "to assure the farmer of adequate production resources to reach this goal."

"Progress Bulletin", N.C.C., Oct. 15, 1950, p.1.

## LONG STAPLE CHARACTERIZES CURRENT CROP

The average staple length of 1950 crop-cotton ginned prior to October 1 was the longest on record, according to the USDA. The grade of ginnings so far has averaged the same as in the similar period last year. Cotton ginned through September this season compared with a year ago contained more strict middling and higher grades, less middling and slightly larger proportions of strict low middling and lower grades.

Southern Textile News, Oct. 14, 1950, p. 8.

## COTTON MAKES A COMEBACK

According to an editorial in a prominent textile journal, synthetics, and rayon in particular, still have an immense fight to wage with natural fibers. Some top stylists think cotton has taken play away from rayon for fall as well as spring and summer wear. New finishes and styling of former has given it new prominence with dark plaids, corduroys, velveteens, etc. Crease resistance, shrink resistance, etc., have added to sales strength of natural fibers. This definite challenge to the position of rayons in fall and winter apparel cannot be ignored. New ideas are important in the fabric field to meet the situation.

Rayon and Synthetic Textiles, Oct. 1950, p. 30.

## IMPORT CONTROLS ON EXTRA LONG COTTON ARE EASED

President Truman has opened the way for imports of an additional 7.5 million pounds of extra long staple (Egyptian type) cotton by January 31. The cotton involved has a staple of 1-3/8 inches or more but less than 1-11/16 inches in length. The proclamation modifies an original one of September 5, 1939, and becomes effective immediately. The additional cotton up to 7.5 million pounds may be brought into the country, or withdrawn from warehouses for consumption, "in accordance with the essential needs of persons or firms engaged in cotton manufacturing, as determined by the Tariff Commission."

Daily Mill Stock Reporter, Oct. 17, 1950, p. 16.



# RAW COTTON DECLINES: CLOTH AND MILL MARGINS RISE

The delivered at mill price of Middling 15/16-inch cotton on October 16 declined from the record high of the previous month and stood 1,052 points higher than the same month a year ago. The average price for cloth from 1 pound of cotton increased 7.8 cents from the August figure. The September average mill margins increased over 5 cents. September prices of 37" 4.00 yard sheeting were up 1.5 cents from the previous month, while osnaburg (36" 2.35 yard) and printcloth (38-1/2" 5.35 yard) were up 1 and 1-1/2 cents, respectively.

Table 1.- Prices of raw cotton, rayon staple and cotton fabrics, and cotton mill margins in cents.

	Oct. 16, 1950	Sept. 1950	Aug. 1950	July 1950	Oct. 1949
Cotton, Middling 15/16" delivered at mills, lb.....	41.70	42.62	40.02	38.71	31.18
Rayon, viscose staple equivalent price 1/, lb.....	32.93	32.93	32.93	32.93	31.15
Rayon, acetate staple equivalent price 1/, lb.....	37.38	37.38	37.38	37.38	37.38
Cotton fabrics, average 17 constructions::					
Price for cloth from 1 lb. of cotton 2/:	-	89.24	81.43	72.97	65.52
Mill margins 3/.....	-	48.69	43.58	35.93	36.08
Sheeting, 37" 4.00 yd. 4/.....	24.00	22.50	21.25	17.25	16.25
Osnaburg, 36" 2.35 yd. 5/.....	29.50	28.50	27.25	24.00	20.00
Printcloth, 38-1/2" 5.35, yd. 4/.....	21.50	20.00	19.50	16.50	15.00

- 1/ Cost to mill of same amount of usable fiber as supplied by one pound of cotton (rayon price x .89).  
 2/ Price of approximate quantity of cloth obtainable from a pound of cotton with adjustments for saleable waste (Cotton Branch, PMA).  
 3/ Difference between cloth prices and price (10-market average of cotton assumed to be used in each kind of cloth (Cotton Branch, PMA).  
 4/ From Daily Mill Stock Reporter. 5/ From Journal of Commerce.

## SEPTEMBER COTTON CONSUMPTION, SPINDLE ACTIVITY DECLINE; STOCKS AND SPINDLE HOURS UP

Cotton consumption declined to 39,530 bales per working day during September from 40,392 bales during August, but was still substantially higher than the 32,959 bales consumed in September a year ago. Stocks on hand amounted to 6.1 million bales at the end of September, compared with 5.7 million bales in August and 6.9 million bales in September last year. Spindle activity was off slightly, while active spindle hours made a sharp increase.

Table 2.- Cotton consumption and stocks, and spindle hours in cotton mills

	Sept. 1950 1/	August 1950 2/	July 1950 2/	Sept. 1949 3/
Consumption average per working day, bales....	39,530	40,392	32,134	32,959
On hand, 1,000 bales.....	6,128	5,713	6,155	6,879
Active spindle hours, billions.....	12.6	10.3	7.8	8.7
Spindle activity, percent of capacity 4/.....	139.7	140.2	110.9	115.2

- 1/ Based on 5-week period. 4/ Includes activity on fibers other than cotton totaling 0.3 to 0.6 billion spindle hours for each period shown.  
 2/ Based on 4-week period.  
 3/ Based on calendar month.  
 From Bureau of the Census reports.



# COTTON PRODUCTS

## MILITARY TEXTILE NEEDS SET AT \$2 BILLION

Military procurement will require nearly \$2 million worth of material from the textile industry, according to present planning for industrial mobilization. The estimate was made by Col. Hugh Mackintosh, chief of the industrial mobilization branch in the office of the U. S. Quartermaster General. He said that the military had made agreements with 325 plants for production of military items.

American Wool and Cotton Reporter, Oct. 5, 1950, p. 17.

## ESTIMATED SALES OF TUFTED COTTON RUGS AND BATH MATS REACH \$40 MILLION

According to a survey made by the National Cotton Council, a conservative estimate gives at least 10 percent or more of the total soft surface floor covering market to cotton. The wholesale dollar volume of tufted cotton rugs in 1949 was estimated at \$40 million; however, some trade sources indicated that the volume may have been as high as \$60 million. Approximately 110 thousand bales of raw cotton were required to produce the yarns and fabrics consumed by the manufacturers of tufted cotton rugs during 1949. There has been a steady upward trend in the market for cotton rugs except for brief periods of readjustment, as during early 1947. Current market prospects are reported to be bright with an expanding market for the new styles, patterns, colors, and textures which have created the strong consumer demand for cotton rugs.

Table 5.- Estimated consumption of cotton in tufted rugs and bath mats

	1949			1946	
	Units 1/ (1000)	478-lb. cotton bales		Units 1/ (1000)	478-lb. cotton bales
	Number			Number	
Production.....	14,420			8,234	
	Pounds			Pounds	
Yarn.....	29,500	76,410 2/		12,920	33,460 2/
	Sq. Yds.			Sq. Yds.	
Fabric.....	21,500	33,060 3/		12,393	19,060 3/

1/ Tufted Textile Manufacturers Association.

2/ Including a processing loss computed at 18.32 percent.

3/ Duck and osnaburg, with the average weight estimated as .625 pounds per square yard plus a processing loss of 15 percent.

From "Cotton in the Soft Floor Covering Industry," National Cotton Council, September 1950.

## AMOUNT OF COTTON IN TOTAL CUTTINGS OF CHILDREN'S AND INFANT'S OUTERWEAR SHOWS INCREASE

Total cuttings of children's and infants' outerwear during 1949 showed that cotton, in most instances, was used to a greater extent in 1949 than in the previous year. Of the few losses suffered by cotton, coats, and ski and snow suits were the most significant. (Table 4).



Table 4.- Total cuttings of children's and Infants' outerwear, by fabric, during 1949 and 1948

Garment	1949			1948				
	Total	Cotton	Rayon	Wool	Total	Cotton	Rayon	Wool
	Thousands of units							
Coats (including capes and reversibles....	6,716	192	195	6,329	6,967	204	181	6,582
Coat-and-legging and coat-and snow-pants sets.....	2,774	32	2	2,740	2,724	36	-	2,688
Ski and snow suits....	3,499	1,292	545	1,662	3,600	1,572	336	1,692
Ski and snow pants and leggings.....	845	224	1	620	852	120	-	732
Suits (except ski and snow suits and slack suits).....	1,002	156	163	683	1,290	144	-	1,146
	Thousands of dozens							
Skirts.....	889	327	50	512	1/	1/	1/	1/
Slacks.....	468	384	7	77	352	273	2/	79
Slack suits.....	130	111	5	14	68	61	2/	7
Jackets.....	184	133	1	50	81	57	-	24
Dresses.....	6,259	5,309	867	83	5,188	4,516	592	80
Blouses, waists, and shirts.....	1,786	1,580	191	15	1/	1/	1/	1/
Playsuits, sunsuits, short overalls, and shorts.....	2,224	2,201	12	11	3/	3/	3/	3/
Overalls and coveralls	1,915	1,886	-	29	3/3,463	3/3,430	2/	3/ 33
Wash suits.....	558	536	19	3	1/	1/	1/	1/
Creepers and rompers..	273	266	7	-	1/	1/	1/	1/
Buntings.....	51	39	1	11	41	33	2/	8
Sacques.....	104	83	14	7	1/	1/	1/	1/
Raincoats and raincaps	57	19	1	37	1/	1/	1/	1/
Robes, bathrobes, beach robes and kimonos	339	302	15	22	1/	1/	1/	1/

1/ Combined with wool to avoid disclosing production of individual companies.

2/ Playsuits, sunsuits, etc., combined with overalls and coveralls for 1948.

From Facts for Industry, "Children's and Infants' Outerwear 1949," Bureau of the Census, August 4, 1950.



# WOOL CARPET AND RUG INDUSTRY CONSUMED 31.5 MILLION POUNDS OF COTTON YARN IN 1949

According to a survey made by the National Cotton Council, it is estimated that the wool carpet and rug industry consumed 31.5 million pounds of cotton yarn or the equivalent of 77 thousand bales of cotton in 1949. In the production of 72,724,000 square yards of Wilton, Velvet, Axminster, and Chenille carpets and rugs, total consumption of all types of yarns in 1949 amounted to 290.9 million pounds, of which 29.6 million pounds were cotton yarn, or 10.2 percent of the total. Cotton accounted for 91.2 percent of materials used in chain yarns, 4 percent of filler yarns, and 2.1 percent of stuffer yarns. Pattern yarns represented 52.3 percent of total yarns consumed, stuffer yarns 23.8 percent, filler yarns 13.9 percent, and chain yarns 10 percent.

Table 5.—Estimated fiber content of wool carpets and rugs produced in 1949, classified according to type and component part held by each material

(Thousands of pounds)

	Total	Cotton	Rayon	Jute	Paper	Wool	All other
	pounds	Pounds	%	Pounds	%	Pounds	%
Total yarn in wool carpets and rugs.....	290,896	29,561	10.2	105,580	36.3	882	.3
Chain yarn.....	29,089	26,536	91.2	2,553	8.8		
Filler yarn.....	40,359	1,599	4.0	38,569	95.6	191	.4
Stuffer yarn.....	69,128	1,426	2.1	67,011	96.9	691	1.0
Pattern yarn.....	152,320					151,368	99.4
Wilton.....	65,452	7,658	11.7	14,956	22.9	98	.1
Chain yarn.....	6,545	6,349	97.0	196	3.0		
Filler yarn.....	6,544	1,113	17.0	5,431	83.0		
Stuffer yarn.....	9,819	196	2.0	9,525	97.0	98	1.0
Pattern yarn.....	42,544					42,459	99.8
Velvet.....	98,177	8,031	8.2	41,372	42.1	275	.3
Chain yarn.....	9,818	7,461	76.0	2,357	24.0		
Filler yarn.....	14,725	295	2.0	14,430	98.0		
Stuffer yarn.....	27,492	275	1.0	26,942	98.0	275	1.0
Pattern yarn.....	46,142					45,911	99.5
Axminster.....	127,267	13,872	10.9	49,252	38.7	509	.4
Chain yarn.....	12,726	12,726	100.0				
Filler yarn.....	19,090	191	1.0	18,708	98.0	191	1.0
Stuffer yarn.....	31,817	955	3.0	30,544	96.0	318	1.0
Pattern yarn.....	63,634					62,998	99.0
						636	1.0

From "Cotton in the Soft Floor Covering Industry," National Cotton Council, September 1950.



# COTTON AND BURLAP BAG PRICES RISE SHARPLY

The price of new cotton flour bags increased to \$337.00 per thousand on October 15, compared with \$325.00 on the same day last month and \$234.75 per thousand on October 15, 1949. Burlap prices increased to \$370.70, reflecting the unstable situation in that commodity.

Table 6.- Mid-month prices of 100 pound flour bags  
(Dollars per thousand)

	: Oct. 1950:	Sept. 1950:	Aug. 1950 :	Oct. 1949
Prices, new, St. Louis <u>1/</u>	:	:	:	:
Cotton-----	: 337.00	: 325.00	: 313.00	: 234.75
Burlap-----	: 370.70	: 254.85	: 254.85	: 216.95
Paper-----	: 103.55	: 103.55	: 103.55	: 98.70
Prices, second hand, New York-----	:	:	:	:
Cotton, once-used <u>2/</u> -----	: 210.00	: 190.00	: 180.00	: 135.00
Cotton, bakery-run <u>3/</u> -----	: 170.00	: 145.00	: 135.00	: 75.00
Burlap, once-used <u>2/</u> -----	: 200.00	: 120.00	: 120.00	: 100.00
Burlap, bakery-run <u>3/</u> -----	: 140.00	: 130.00	: 125.00	: 95.00
Paper, bakery-run <u>3/</u> -----	: 5.00	: 5.00	: 5.00	: 3.33
Difference	:	:	:	:
Cotton, new minus once-used-----	: 127.00	: 135.00	: 133.00	: 99.75
Cotton, new minus bakery-run-----	: 167.00	: 180.00	: 178.00	: 159.75
Burlap, new minus once-used-----	: 170.70	: 134.85	: 134.85	: 116.95
Burlap, new minus bakery-run-----	: 230.70	: 124.85	: 129.85	: 121.95
Paper, new minus bakery-run-----	: 98.55	: 98.55	: 98.55	: 95.37
<u>1/</u> Cotton, 37" 4.00 yd. sheeting cut 43" unprinted; burlap, 36" 10 oz. cut 43" unprinted; paper, 18 x 4-1/2 x 36-3/4" unprinted; all l.c.l. shipments. No allowance made for quantity or cash discounts. From a large bag manufacturer.				
<u>2/</u> From a large second-hand bag dealer.				
<u>3/</u> From Daily Mill Stock Reporter.				

## TIRE CORD: COTTON AND RAYON PRICES CONTINUE TO INCREASE

The price of 12/4/2 cotton fabric was 87 cents per pound and 79.2 cents per square yard on October 1. This compares with September 1 prices of 78.85 cents per pound and 71.8 cents per square yard for the 12/4/2 cotton fabric. Rayon passenger tire cord and the 2200/2 size truck tire fabric showed substantial increases.

Table 7.- Prices of cotton and rayon tire fabric, October 1 and September 1, 1950

Fabric	Cord	Fabric weight: per sq. yd. <u>1/</u>	Price per pound		Price per sq. yd.	
			Oct. 1	Sept. 1	Oct. 1	Sept. 1
		Pound	Cents	Cents	Cents	Cents
Passenger car tires						
Cotton fabric-----	12/4/2:	.91	87.00	78.85	79.2	71.8
Rayon fabric-----	1650/2:	.79	71.05	64.5-66.6	56.1	51.0-52.6
Truck tires						
Rayon fabric-----	1100/2:	.62	67.0	67.0	41.5	41.5
Rayon fabric-----	1650/2:	.78	64.5	64.5	50.3	50.3
Rayon fabric-----	2200/2:	.82	69.55	64.6	57.0	53.0

1/ These are typical fabric weights and vary somewhat for different tire manufacturers.  
Based on reports from independent rubber companies.



## COMPETITIVE PRODUCTS

### ABACA FIBER PROJECT SET

Production of abaca fiber in the Western Hemisphere, now a comparatively small enterprise, will be significantly expanded as a result of congress authorizing the Reconstruction Finance Corporation to use up \$35 million for such work. Considerable importance is attached to the project since abaca (manila hemp) is a strategic crop. Its fiber is strong, durable, and resistant to salt water, making it the most valuable fiber known for marine cordage. The United States obtains most of its supply from the Far East over long supply routes, making desirable a supplemental supply closer at hand. RFC, under contract with private operators, began expanding abaca production in this hemisphere in 1942 and now has plantations totaling around 26,000 acres in production in Guatemala, Honduras, Costa Rica, and Panama. The new authorization permits expansion up to a total of 50,000 acres.

Oil, Paint and Drug Reporter, Oct. 16, 1950, p. 38.

### PROGRESS WITH "ARDIL"

The current interest in development of mixtures and the soaring price of wool add point to the I.C.I. plans for development of Ardil, the wool-like synthetic fibre made from peanuts. These factors are now encouraging a speed-up in development of the plant at Dumfries in order to achieve earliest possible operation. Whether the Ardil program can be stepped up fast enough to permit its useful intervention in the current position is not yet clear. It may well prove that the current crisis has been corrected by the time active production of the new peanut fibre can be launched. Policy meanwhile is to speed up work to minimize this chance and so to give a flying start to the new synthetic.

The Textile Weekly, September 22, 1950, p. 776.

### BURLAP PRICES HIT ALL-TIME RECORD

Prices of burlap in the New York market have reached an all-time high, and new records are being set daily as prices continue to edge upwards because of the extremely tight supply situation. The already gloomy situation of New York importers was further darkened by reports that no substantial relief is in sight for the next several months. Almost no offerings have been made in New York in recent weeks, but each one made has been at a higher price than the previous one. Consequently, 40 inch 10 ounce burlap is now nominally quoted at 30.50¢ per yard, more than 25 percent over its previous peak of 24¢, reached shortly after the end of World War I. Other constructions are at proportionate levels and all of them are record highs.

The Journal of Commerce, Oct. 13, 1950, p. 1.

### FIRST U. S. GROWN KENAF TO BE SPUN INTO YARN

Tropical Fibre, Inc., has shipped the first 2 bales of kenaf ever grown commercially in the United States from Vero Beach, Fla. The shipment was sent to Ludlow Mfg. & Sales Co. of Boston, Mass., for spinning into yarn. President Edward G. Henriques of Tropical Fibre said that this was the first of thousands of bales of kenaf which will be shipped once the company gets into full



production. Due to delay in manufacturing proper processing equipment and the obtaining of equipment parts, the 1949 harvest of kenaf was late in getting processed for the spinning of yarn. The kenaf was grown on 240 acres of marshland in the Indian River County.

Journal of Commerce, Sept. 26, 1950, p. 15.

#### PAPER SHIPPING SACKS

Demand for multi-wall paper shipping sacks was particularly strong during the second quarter 1950. Almost all sack manufacturers have had a sharp increase in business and believe a considerable portion of the increase to be the result of inventory building by users. At the same time the price of paper has gone up about \$10.00 per ton in some areas, producers of sacks report, and may soon be reflected by an increase in shipping sack prices.

Table 8 .-- Production of shipping sack and of bag paper, 1940-50 1/

(Index: 1940 = 100)							
Period	Paper shipping sacks		Paper bags		Total		
	Short tons	Index	Short tons	Index	Short tons	Index	
Monthly average:	:	:	:	:	:	:	:
1940.....	16,250	100	50,500	100	66,750	100	
1941.....	22,500	138	60,000	119	82,500	124	
1942.....	20,900	129	55,100	109	76,000	114	
1943.....	26,250	162	43,150	85	69,400	104	
1944.....	32,650	201	31,250	62	63,900	96	
1945.....	35,250	217	30,400	60	65,650	98	
1946.....	48,850	282	43,650	86	89,500	134	
1947.....	55,900	344	46,100	91	102,000	153	
1948.....	51,400	316	60,650	120	112,050	168	
1949.....	39,600	244	55,400	110	95,000	142	
1950 <u>2/</u> .....	50,500	311	61,750	122	112,250	168	
	:	:	:	:	:	:	:

1/ All figures have been rounded.

2/ Estimated on basis first 5 months production.

Source: Bureau of the Census, WPB Records and Industry Data.

"Containers and Packaging", Bur. of For. and Dom. Com.,  
Autumn 1950, p. 18.

#### GERMANS MAKING PERLON RIBBONS FOR TYPEWRITERS

Perlon is being produced in Eastern Germany of a sufficient degree of fineness to enable the nationalized undertaking, Buro-Chemie, to carry out experiments in the manufacture of Perlon typewriter ribbons. Under normal conditions, typewriter ribbons were previously made from cotton and natural silk, but shortages of these materials in Eastern Germany led to the use of artificial fibers in 1949. The Perlon ribbons are said to be "almost everlasting," they will shortly be brought to the domestic market in limited quantities.

Journal of Commerce, Oct. 4, 1950, p. 21.



#### NEW YARN MADE FROM DOMESTIC RAMIE

Ramie Products Corp., Pittsburgh yarn producer, and San-Knit-Ary Textile Mills, Inc., local knitting firm, have cooperated in the development of a new yarn produced from Ramie in natural fiber, it was learned here today. The new yarn, known as Ramaton, is reported to have several times the tensile strength of cotton and of silk and to be stronger than synthetics presently in use. Paul Dalsimer, general manager of San-Knit-Ary, declined to give details other than to say his firm was cooperating in the project with Ramie. He referred inquiries to the yarn firm.

Daily News Record, Oct. 16, 1950, p. 2.

#### LACK OF RAYON TIRE CORD MAKES APPAREL YARN SLASH LIKELY

Rayon yarn producers are faced with the necessity of switching a portion of their apparel-type yarn production to the manufacture of high-tenacity tire yarn in order to satisfy a greatly intensified military demand for car, truck and plane tires. That this step will prove to be the only solution to the problem is becoming apparent. Construction of new facilities for tire cord production would require 2 or 3 years; this length of time would not be compatible with the military demand. Also, producers would not wish to make a sizable investment in this field, considering the vulnerability of Army budgets to Federal appropriation slashes, unless some kind of sizable Government subsidies were made available.

Journal of Commerce, Oct. 3, 1950, p. 26.

#### RUG MAKERS SEEK TO BOOST USE OF RAYON

Soaring wool costs, plus a discouraging prognosis of still higher prices and scarcer supplies, have brought the carpet industry to a momentous turning point. Virtually all major manufacturers have decided to step up their use of rayon to the limit of their ability. The big hitch in their plans is lack of rayon in the quantities they would like to buy. At present, those mills which brought out a few rayon-wool blends last June are asking their suppliers for greatly increased amounts of the fiber.

While hopeful that rayon producers will decide to increase greatly their capacity, the carpet mills are working with some success to eke out domestically-manufactured rayon with imports from abroad. Large shipments of rayon staple are reported arriving here for carpet purposes from Italy, Belgium, France, England, Germany, Norway and Sweden.

Journal of Commerce, Sept. 5, 1950, p. 27.

#### PRODUCTION OF TOPS AND NOILS CONTINUES TO DECLINE IN 1949

Production of tops and noils from wool of the sheep and other fibers declined again this year and are below the prewar production figures of 1939.



Table 9 .- Production of Tops and Noils, 1939, 1947-1949  
(Thousands of pounds)

	1949 • (52 weeks)	1948 (52 weeks)	1947 1/ (calendar year)	1939 1/ (calendar year)
TOPS, TOTAL.....	201,162	304,198	316,868	207,628
Wool of the sheep	177,747	284,380	294,588	185,457
Domestic and foreign, duty-paid:	174,953	278,537	n.a.	n.a.
Foreign, duty-free.....	2,794	5,843	n.a.	n.a.
Mohair.....	10,569	7,780	n.a.	13,350
Rayon.....	4,038	4,297	5,698	4,934
All other 2/.....	8,808	7,741	n.a.	3,887
NOILS, TOTAL.....	29,389	49,984	50,347	n.a.
Wool of the sheep.....	25,793	46,722	47,542	27,172
Domestic and foreign, duty-paid:	25,397	45,728	n.a.	n.a.
Foreign, duty-free.....	396	994	n.a.	n.a.
Mohair.....	1,537	1,201	1,992	1,700
Rayon.....	256	280	222	n.a.
All other 2/.....	1,803	1,781	591	n.a.

n.a. not available.

1/ From Census of Manufactures which included some fiscal year reports.

2/ Includes cashmere, goat hair, nylon, blends of hair and rayon, and blends of hair and wool.

## COTTON TEXTILE INDUSTRY AND EQUIPMENT

### NEW SHUTTLELESS LOOM TO HAVE NOVEL FEATURES

A really good performance is claimed for the new "Ballbe" shuttleless loom, manufactured by the Societe de Constructions Mecaniques Ballbe and reported to be in successful operation in a large number of French weaving mills. It is claimed to be a versatile loom with many novel features including a new method of weft insertion from a continuous and stationary supply. Various types of shuttleless looms have been brought out from time to time and, although some of these have been remarkably efficient weaving machines, none has yet seriously challenged the supremacy of the orthodox loom with its weft-containing "fly" shuttle. Yet, shuttleless looms have many advantages. In the first place, pirn or shuttle-changing is obviated by the provision of a continuous and stationary weft supply; strain on the warp threads is reduced in consequence of the smaller sheds needed to accommodate the rapiers or other forms of weft inserters; shuttle "traps," flying out" and other picking and shuttle troubles common to ordinary looms are avoided and, finally, the elimination of noisy picking mechanisms and clattering shuttles results in much quieter operation.

In view of the above advantages, it may appear somewhat surprising that the shuttleless loom has not made more progress but this type of loom often has one or more of the following drawbacks: (1) a relatively complex weft-inserting mechanism; (2) a slower loom speed and reduced rate of production owing to the extra time taken in inserting and withdrawing the weft carriers; and (3) the difficulty of forming a satisfactory selvage. Another factor is that with some looms there is a double insertion of weft through each shed and this is not always advantageous, particularly with the finer types of fabric.



#### NEW KNITTING MACHINE DEMONSTRATED

At a demonstration of a new fully-fashioned underwear and outerwear knitting machine at his Sutton-in-Ashfield engineering works recently, Mr. Samuel A. Monk said, "This machine will revolutionize the full-fashioned knitwear industry." Named the "Samco Rapid," it incorporates entirely new features and will enable manufacturers to compete with "cut up" garments. The first machine has already been delivered. It weighs eight tons and produces eight garments in one operation. It is made in gauges to suit the manufacturers. The machine will produce full-fashioned garments, one of Britain's biggest knitwear exports on the dollar market, in two-thirds the normal time, claims the inventor. It is estimated that the speed of knitting of this machine is twice that of any pre-war model and will effect a big saving in production costs.

The Textile Weekly, September 22, 1950, p. 728.

#### CHEMSTRAND WILL BUILD PLANT FOR PRODUCTION OF NEW FIBER

Plans to construct a multi-million dollar plant to manufacture a new synthetic fiber for the Chemstrand Corp., were announced by Monsanto Chemical Co. and American Viscose Corp., joint owners of Chemstrand. Plans call for the plant to be erected on a 656-acre site west of Decatur, Ala., on the Tennessee River. Very little is presently known about the new fiber, except that it is believed to be similar to "Orlon," the DuPont experimental synthetic.

Simultaneously, it was announced that Chemstrand will shortly begin operation of a synthetic fiber semi-production plant at Marcus Hook, Pa., where 1,000,000 pounds of synthetic fiber staple will be produced annually. Up until now, the acrylonitrile-type fiber has been produced only in laboratory quantities.

Journal of Commerce, Sept. 28, 1950, p. 26.

#### TEXTILE RESEARCH AND EDUCATION

##### NEW FINISH TO GIVE CREASE AND SHRINK RESISTANCE TO COTTON AND RAYON

The E. I. du Pont de Nemours & Co., Inc., has introduced a new crease and shrink resistant finish named "Zeset S." It is described as durable to dry cleaning and to laundering up to 160 degrees Fahrenheit. It was stated that higher temperatures cause more rapid removal of the finish and should be avoided, along with the use of acid soaps in laundering. The new finish can be combined with zelan to add water repellance. It is applied on standard equipment with many present problems with this type of finish simplified. Steps involved include padding, drying, curing, neutralizing and washing, and drying. The finish is said to improve with aging over the first few days, not to yellow or discolor during bleaching, to reduce swelling of fibers in water, not to develop odor if properly neutralized, and to affect dyes similarly to other such products. Tensile strength loss on viscose is termed usually negligible, while on cotton it is similar to older products.

Daily News Record, Oct. 2, 1950, p. 32.

##### NEW FIBER FROM RUBBER DEVELOPED

A new synthetic fibre made from natural rubber and sulphur dioxide has been developed in the Amsterdam laboratories of the Royal Dutch Shell Group. The process has already been carried through the pilot-plant (single spinneret) stage



and is being developed further, under license, by the AKU rayon firm in Holland. The new fibre is said to be comparable in strength with viscose, cheap, generally stable and outstandingly resistant to water and solvents.

Fashion & Development Section. Courtaulds, Ltd.,  
July 1950, p. 1.

#### WOOL WASHING, MOTHPROOFING AT SAME TIME HELD POSSIBLE

Simultaneous mothproofing and washing of wool fabrics is now possible both commercially and in the home. This was made known in a paper on mothproofing-detergent combinations by H. C. Borghetty, Opal Sherburne and Winfred Pardey of General Dyestuff Corp., read at the wool group meeting during the AATCC convention. The report stated that fabrics washed with specially prepared quarternary mothproofing agents plus ethylene oxide condensates can be stored indefinitely without danger from moths and carpet beetles.

Daily News Record, Oct. 2, 1950, p. 32.

#### NEW DYE-STRIPPER DEVELOPED

Wool color control is latest development to take the piece-goods trade off the hook in case of a bad guess on fabric color. Alexander Smith & Sons and Milton Harris Laboratories have developed a process to strip wool of dyes using ethylene dibromide to stabilize wool. Formerly, wool could be reclaimed by treating with reducing agents to remove color--but at the expense of fiber degradation. Addition of ethylene dibromide, however, creates cross-linkages in wool, reduces sensitivity of wool to further processing, and actually improves wear resistance. Cross linkage, formed by a sulfur-ethylenic bridge across fiber chains, reduces alkali solubility, stabilizes wool, and permits engineering of wool blends for specific end uses. The process, called Harristrip, is available for licensing.

Chemical and Engineering News, Oct. 16, 1950, p. 3561.

#### OILSEEDS AND RELATED PRODUCTS

##### INCREASED INDUSTRIAL ACTIVITY, CONSUMER INCOME, STRENGTHENS DEMAND FOR FATS & OILS

The expected increases in industrial activity and consumer income in 1950-51 will strengthen demand for fats and oils in the United States. There is likely to be a similar strengthening of foreign demand for fats and oils. With domestic output of fats and oils likely to decline slightly in 1950-51, increased domestic and export demands for fats and oils will be reflected mainly in increased prices. Total consumption of fats and oils in the United States probably will increase moderately, with a larger rise in use of fats in paints, varnishes, chemicals, rubber, and other industrial products than in food uses. Total exports of fats and oils may decline slightly, but exports of lard, tallow, greases, soybeans, and soybean oil probably will remain near the high levels of 1949-50.

The Demand and Price Situation, Oct. 1950, p. 22.



# RECORD SOYBEAN CROP EXPECTED: FLAXSEED, PEANUTS, AND RICE DOWN FROM LAST YEAR

Prospects for oilseed production improved during September, despite a slight decline in expected cottonseed production. Harvest of soybeans has started and a record crop of over 275 million bushels is now in prospect. This compares with 222 million last year and a pre-war average of 164 million bushels. Flaxseed is being harvested under difficult conditions, but an average outturn of 35 million bushels is expected. This is 8.4 million bushels below last year, but is still 472 thousand bushels greater than the average pre-war figure. Harvest of peanuts reveals slightly better yields than forecast earlier, but with production estimated at 1,677 million pounds, due to reduced acreage, peanuts are less than an average crop.

Table 10.- Yield per acre and production of specified crops, United States, period 1939-48, and years 1949 and 1950

Crop	Unit	Yield per acre			Total production (thousands)		
		Indicated:		Average	Indicated:		Average
		Oct. 1, 1949	1939-48		Oct. 1, 1949	1939-48	
		1950 <sup>1/</sup>			1950 <sup>1/</sup>		
Cotton-----	bale	257.0 <sup>2/</sup>	284.0 <sup>2/</sup>	261.3 <sup>2/</sup>	9,869	16,128	11,599
Flaxseed-----	bu.	9.4	8.9	9.5	35,224	43,664	34,752
Peanuts <sup>3/</sup> -----	lb.	793	804	687	1,676,890	1,875,825	1,950,690
Rice-----	100#)	2,288 <sup>3/</sup>	2,203 <sup>2/</sup>	2,094 <sup>2/</sup>	36,776	40,113	29,790
	bag )						
Soybeans for beans	bu.	21.3	22.4	18.8	275,256	222,305	164,491
Sugarcane for							
sugar and seed--	ton	21.7	20.1	19.7	7,300	6,796	5,915
Sweetpotatoes--	bu.	102.1	100.1	90.8	59,658	54,232	61,786

<sup>1/</sup> For certain crops, figures are not based on current indications, but are carried forward from previous reports.

<sup>2/</sup> Pounds.

<sup>3/</sup> Picked and threshed.

From "Crop Production," BAE, Oct. 1, 1950.

## PRICES OF DOMESTIC VEGETABLE OILS AND MEALS DECLINE

As of October 16, prices of vegetable oils and meals had declined moderately from the peaks reached in September, but still were substantially above those of the same month a year ago. It is expected, however, that prices of most fats and oils will average higher in the year beginning October 1, 1950 than a year earlier. This is due to the predicted increase in industrial activity and consumer income in the 1950-51 season. (table 11.)



Table 11.- Prices of vegetable oils and meals

Product	October 1950	September 1950	11/ August 1950	October 1949
<u>OILS 1/</u>				
	October 16	Cents per pound		
Cottonseed oil-----	17.5	18.3	17.2	10.2
Peanut oil-----	19.5	21.0	19.8	11.5
Soybean oil-----	14.0	14.5	14.5	10.1
Corn oil-----	17.0	18.4	17.6	11.5
Coconut oil 2/-----	18.8	20.6	19.5	16.0
Linseed oil 3/-----	17.0	18.9	18.8	19.2
Tung oil 4/-----	25.5	26.5	26.5	27.2
<u>MEALS 5/</u>				
	October 14	Dollars per ton		
Cottonseed meal 6/-----	69.50	71.60	74.70	59.70
Peanut meal 7/-----	66.00	75.75	77.20	61.20
Soybean meal 8/-----	58.00	62.90	78.20	74.80
Coconut meal 9/-----	58.00	72.80	80.60	48.20
Linseed meal 10/-----	55.50	58.10	67.90	66.55
1/	Crude, tanks, f.o.b. mills except as noted. From Oil, Paint and Drug Reporter, (daily quotations) and from Fats and Oils Situation, BAE (monthly quotations).			
2/	Crude, tanks, carlots, Pacific Coast. Three cents added to allow for tax on first domestic processing.			
3/	Raw, drums, carlots, New York.			
4/	Drums, carlots, New York.			
5/	Bagged carlots, as given in Feedstuffs, (daily quotations) and Feed Situation, BAE (monthly quotations).			
6/	41 percent protein, Memphis.			
7/	45 percent protein, S. E. Mills.			
8/	41 percent protein, Chicago.			
9/	19 percent protein, Los Angeles.			
10/	34 percent protein, Minneapolis.			
11/	Preliminary.			

PHILIPPINE COPRA PRODUCTION TO EXCEED 830 THOUSAND TONS

The Philippine Republic's production in 1950 of coconut products—copra, coconut oil, and desiccated coconut—may reach 875,000 long tons of copra equivalent. Despite substantial increases in output in both June and July, it appears certain now that output will not reach the 900,000 tons considered an outside possibility 5 months ago. Nevertheless, production is certain to exceed the estimated 830,000 tons of copra equivalent produced in 1949, barring unforeseen mishaps.

Desiccated coconut exports from the Philippines in the January-July 1950 period probably have broken all comparable records. They totaled 40,980 short tons, about 5,000 more than in the corresponding months of 1949. Exports for all of 1950 have been forecast at 70,000 tons. In addition to exceeding the 62,795 tons exported in 1949, this volume would be sharply greater than the 45,000 tons shipped annually in prewar. About 97 percent of the Philippine exports of desiccated coconut goes to the United States.



# USE OF DOMESTIC EDIBLE PEANUTS IN SEPTEMBER DECLINES

A total of about 56 million pounds of edible-grade shelled peanuts were used in peanut products during the month of September, 1950. This compares with 60 million pounds during the same month a year ago and reflects a decrease of almost 5 million pounds. Declines were registered in all end uses other than that crushed for oil, cake and meal. (table 12.)

Table 12.- Shelled peanuts (raw basis) reported used domestically in primary products

Reported use	Sept. 1 - Sept. 30 1950	Sept. 1 - Sept. 30 1949	Season, Sept. 1 - Aug. 31 1949-50	Season, Sept. 1 - Aug. 31 1948-49
TOTAL, all grades-----	55,594	60,451	924,053	710,596
Edible grades, total-----	43,462	49,317	509,104	484,431
Peanut candy 1/-----	12,778	14,202	125,282	107,181
Salted peanuts-----	10,249	12,297	118,291	120,018
Peanut butter 2/-----	19,809	22,186	256,168	250,184
Other products-----	626	632	9,363	7,048
Crushed for oil, cake, and meal 3/-----	12,132	11,134	414,949	226,165

1/ Includes peanut butter made by manufacturers for own use in candy.

2/ Excludes peanut butter made by manufacturers for own use in candy.

3/ Includes ungraded or straight run peanuts.

From: "Peanut Stocks and Processing," BAE, Oct. 18, 1950.

## LESPEDEZA SEED SEEN AS POSSIBLE SUPPLEMENT TO SOYA IN PAINT MANUFACTURE

The paint industry will be interested to learn of a new source of drying oil which has recently been investigated. This is solvent-extracted lespedeza seed oil, which has been shown to be a semi-drying oil comparable with soya bean oil. The research work has been conducted by R. H. Wiley of the University of Louisville, who is head of the Chemistry Department there. What the next move will be following the discovery of the seed oil properties is uncertain. Commercialization is inhibited because the cost is high and the current drop in world vegetable oil prices has tended to concentrate attention on the problem of utilizing old oil existing markets. It is believed, however, that the long-term prospects for this oil are good. The crop is popular with farmers and a research and development program should lead to a substantial lowering of production costs.

Paint Manufacture, Sept. 1950, p. 309.

## PRICE SUPPORT ANNOUNCED FOR 1950 CROP RICE

The Production and Marketing Administration of the U. S. Department of Agriculture announced that 1950-crop rough rice will be supported at 90 percent of the parity price as of August 1, 1950, for producers who comply with acreage allotments. Parity price on rice is computed on the basis of the revised formula provided by the Agricultural Act of 1949. (Note: If the loan rate for



the rice had been computed on the basis of May 15 parity, the rate would be \$4.52 per 1000 pounds or about \$2.03 per bushel. Price support for the 1949 crop now being marketed averages about \$3.96 per hundredweight, or about \$1.78 a bushel.)

On December 30 last, Secretary Brannan announced that marketing quotas would not be required for 1950-crop rice, but that price support would be conditioned upon producer compliance with acreage allotments. Producers who planted within their rice acreage allotments will be eligible to receive price support. Price support will be implemented by loans and purchase agreements, available to producers from time of harvest through January 31, 1951. Other program provisions will be substantially the same as those for the 1949 crop.

The Rice Journal, August 1950, p. 19.

# 1949 TUNG CROP SETS RECORD AT 88 THOUSAND TONS

A record-breaking United States crop of 88,000 tons of tung nuts was produced in 1949. The production for Mississippi is estimated at 43,600 tons, almost half of the total U. S. production, according to D. A. McCandliss, Agricultural Statistician for the U. S. Department of Agriculture. Louisiana ranks second in production, and the crop in that State is estimated to be 26,000 tons; this is almost 30 percent of the total U. S. production.

Most of the crop was crushed on a custom basis, the oil being stored at the mills subject to producers' orders to sell. By May 25, 1950, more than half the 1949-crop oil was still unsold by producers. The final estimate of the season-average price of the 1949 crop has not yet been made, but sales to date have brought Mississippi growers an average price of about \$64 per ton for air-dried nuts in the hull. The preliminary average price estimated for the U. S. is \$62.10 per ton. If these should prove to be the average prices for the entire season the total value of the 1949 tung crop in Mississippi would be about \$2,790,400, and the total for the United States \$5,464,800.

The accompanying table shows production by States from 1944 through 1949.

Table 13.- Tung Nuts: Production, U.S., 1944-49

State	1944	1945	1946	1947	1948	1949 <sup>1/</sup>	Percent 1949 1948
TONS							
Georgia—	800	1,100	1,800	900	800	1,000	125
Florida—	7,000	8,400	15,000	11,000	17,500	16,200	93
Alabama—	700	1,140	1,600	800	900	1,200	133
Mississippi—	10,630	15,690	23,800	25,000	25,300	43,600	172
Louisiana <sup>2/</sup>	7,550	10,750	15,200	15,500	14,000	26,000	186
U. S.	26,680	37,080	57,400	53,200	58,500	88,000	150

<sup>1/</sup> Revised.

<sup>2/</sup> Includes small quantities of tung nuts produced in Texas.  
Tung World, July 1950, p. 18.



# LINTERS AND CELLULOSE

## LINTERS PRODUCTION AND PRICES ADVANCE SHARPLY: STOCKS DECLINE

Production of linters at oil mills totaled 68 thousand bales during the first month of the current season. This is the largest August production of linters on record and compares with 49 thousand bales produced in July and 63 thousand in August 1949. Stocks of linters declined to 340 thousand bales in August from 437 thousand in July and 410 thousand bales in September a year ago.

Prices of both felting and chemical grade linters continued to advance. Prices of chemical grade linters and refined cotton linters pulp advanced sharply during the past 12 months. The average price for Grade 6 linters was 11.63 cents per pound in September this year compared with 1.92 cents a year ago. Prices for refined linters pulp rose from 8.00 cents per pound in August 1949 to 15.65 cents in August of this year. (table 14.)

Table 14.-- Cotton linters: Production, consumption by industries, stocks and prices, United States, for specified months

	: September : 1950 <sup>1/</sup>	: August : 1950 <sup>1/</sup>	: July : 1950 <sup>1/</sup>	: June : 1950 <sup>2/</sup>	: September : 1949
	<u>1,000 bales</u>				
Production <sup>4/</sup> -----	5/	68.0	49.5	58.0	182.0
Consumption <sup>6/</sup> -----	124.0	149.3	112.4	138.0	142.1
Quantity bleached-----	69.6	81.6	58.3	80.8	78.9
Other industries-----	54.4	67.7	54.1	57.2	61.9
Stocks <sup>7/</sup> -----	5/	340.0	437.0	447.0	410.0
Prices <sup>8/</sup> -----	Cents	Cents	Cents	Cents	Cents
No. 2 grade, per pound--	17.28	14.23	11.67	10.81	10.10
No. 4 grade, per pound--	13.69	10.95	8.42	7.86	6.16
No. 6 grade, per pound--	11.63	9.10	6.36	5.86	1.92

<sup>1/</sup> Based on 4-week period.

<sup>2/</sup> Based on 5-week period.

<sup>3/</sup> For calendar month.

<sup>4/</sup> From Weekly Cotton Linters Review, PMA, Cotton Branch, USDA

<sup>5/</sup> Data not available.

<sup>6/</sup> From Facts for Industry, "Cotton and Linters," Bureau of the Census.

<sup>7/</sup> Total stocks in consumer establishments, public storage and warehouses, and mills. Stocks at end of the month. From Facts for Industry, "Cotton Linters," Bureau of the Census.

<sup>8/</sup> Average of average weekly prices, Memphis, Dallas, and Atlanta. From Weekly Cotton Linters Review, PMA, Cotton Branch, USDA.

## RAYONIER INCREASES PRICES OF PULP PRODUCTS 8 TO 13 PERCENT

Rayonier, Inc., principal producer of pulp for the synthetic yarn industry has advanced the price of its products from 8 to 13 percent, effective Oct. 31, it was announced. In the acetate grade the increase was from \$185 a ton to \$210 a ton, and in the viscose grade from \$159 a ton to \$173. Tire cord grades



advanced from \$170 to \$185 a ton. The jump was explained by company officials as being made necessary by rising costs of wood chemicals, fuel, and other raw materials.

Last increases of rayon pulp prices were announced by Rayonier on Aug. 1. At that time they raised their prices from 6 to 8 percent across the board. The eventual effect on synthetic yarn prices has not yet been gauged by the trade, but the pulp product hikes were considered substantial by most observers contacted. It was thought that the synthetic yarn producers would have to up their own quotations proportionate to the effect on the pulp increase on yarn costs.

Journal of Commerce, Sept. 25, 1950, p. 14.

# SEPTEMBER PRICE OF PURIFIED LINTERS AT RECORD HEIGHTS: DISSOLVING WOOD PULP UNCHANGED

The price of purified lintors continued to advance sharply for the 10th consecutive month and is now the highest on record. Prices of the 3 grades of dissolving wood pulp remain unchanged; however, the largest producer of dissolving wood pulp in the United States announced price increases of from 9 to 13-1/2 percent to be effective October 31, 1950.

Table 15.- Average annual price of purified linters and dissolving wood pulp, United States, for specified years and months

Year	Purified linters 1/	(Cents per pound)		
		Wood pulp 2/		
		Standard viscose grade	High-tenacity viscose grade	Acetate and cupra grade
1946	9.50	5.60	5.85	6.15
1947	16.30	7.03	7.44	8.04
1948	11.25	7.93	8.44	9.20
1949	8.62	7.94	8.44	9.06
1950, January	9.35	7.50	8.05	8.55
1950, February	10.50	7.50	8.05	8.55
1950, March	11.35	7.50	8.05	8.55
1950, April	12.35	7.50	8.05	8.55
1950, May	12.70	7.50	8.05	8.55
1950, June	14.00	7.50	8.05	8.55
1950, July	14.35	7.50	8.05	8.55
1950, August	15.65	7.95	8.50	9.25
1950, September	23.30	7.95	8.50	9.25

1/ Weighted averages, 1946-48. On 7 percent moisture basis, f.o.b. pulp plant. Average freight to users is 0.5 cent per pound. Prices supplied by a producer.

2/ Average of monthly prices, 1946-48. Compiled from Rayon Organon and from letters to us from producer. Wood pulp prices are 10 percent moisture basis, f.o.b. domestic producing mill, full freight, and 3 percent transportation tax allowed, December 1, 1947, on; freight equalized with that Atlantic or Gulf port carrying lowest backhaul rate to destination plus 3 percent of backhaul charges, prior to December 1.



# RAYON MANUFACTURERS PREDICT SCARCITY OF RAW MATERIALS

The supply of wood and linters pulp which has been tight for some time is not expected to improve materially within the near future according to trade reports. These reports indicate that some rayon producers have switched yarn production from the heavier to lighter deniers in an effort to spread the limited supplies of raw material. The shortage of wood pulp which is probably the principal cause of concern to the rayon industry has been a problem for the past several years and the outlook for any real improvement is not favorable, according to news reports. The supply of cotton linters, the other basic raw material for rayon products, has been limited for several months and the short cotton crop this year does not make the prospects for increased supplies too promising. The general tightness of cellulose supplies has been aggravated in recent months by a shortage of caustic soda which is essential in the processing of the raw material.

Weekly Cotton Linters Review, PMA, October 27, 1950.

## DOMESTIC PRODUCTION AND IMPORTS OF DISSOLVING WOOD PULP INCREASE

August production of 43,775 tons of domestic dissolving wood pulp was 6,199 tons above the total for the previous month. Exports decreased substantially thus providing 56,145 tons, the total amount available for domestic consumption. (table 16.)

Table 16.-- Dissolving wood pulp: Production, exports, imports, and quantities made available for consumption, U.S., for specified years and months

(Tons)				
Year	Domestic production <sup>1/</sup>	Imports <sup>2/</sup>	Exports <sup>2/</sup>	Available for domestic consumption <sup>3/</sup>
1939-----	<u>4/</u>	88,052	48,232	<u>4/</u>
1946-----	<u>4/</u>	202,192	8,491	<u>4/</u>
1947-----	324,927	248,606	10,389	563,144
1948-----	356,700	243,740	15,937	584,503
1949-----	<u>4/</u>	154,348	25,928	<u>4/</u>
1950, January-----	37,350	14,245	342	51,253
1950, February-----	37,803	19,239	2,676	54,366
1950, March-----	38,567	20,596	571	58,592
1950, April-----	37,828	21,590	1,440	57,978
1950, May-----	40,039	19,582	2,947	56,674
1950, June-----	38,818	19,219	3,944	54,093
1950, July-----	37,576	20,976	2,407	56,145
1950, August-----	43,775	<u>4/</u>	<u>4/</u>	<u>4/</u>

<sup>1/</sup> Sulphite, bleached, dissolving grades. From Facts for Industry, Pulp and Paper Manufactures, Bureau of the Census.

<sup>2/</sup> Sulphite, bleached, rayon and special chemical grades. Data from Foreign Commerce Statistics of the U. S., Bureau of the Census.

<sup>3/</sup> Production plus imports, less exports.

<sup>4/</sup> No data.



## LID CLAMPED ON EXPORT OF COTTON LINTERS, PULP

Except for small quantities that may be allocated for export to meet strategic needs, no export licenses for cotton linters or cotton pulp, a chemical by-product of cotton linters, will be issued until further notice, the Office of Industry and Commerce, U. S. Department of Commerce, announced. Action prohibiting exports of linters was taken at the request of the Department of Agriculture for the purpose of protecting available supplies of this commodity for defense requirements. The Department of Commerce imposed the licensing of exports of raw cotton and cotton linters on September 8 and of cotton pulp on September 28.

The Cotton Trade Journal, Oct. 6, 1950, p. 1.

## MISCELLANEOUS PRODUCTS

### SHARP CURTAILMENT OF MOLASSES SUPPLY FEARED BY FEED INDUSTRY

The molasses supply outlook for the feed industry for the coming year is at best cloudy. For the coming year only one fact stands out with surety—that the overall demand for molasses from all sources including foreign nations will compel a substantial reduction in molasses availability for the feed industry next year from the estimated 1950 usage of approximately 225 million gallons.

Total availability of blackstrap molasses from all sources, mainland and off-shore production, is indicated at about 480 million gallons. The availability from Cuba is not estimated at more than 200 million gallons on the basis of Cuban intentions at this time. The Cuban interests are said to be planning to hold back 100 million gallons for alcohol production in Cuba. United Kingdom requirements from the Cuban backstrap crop will amount to between 60-76 million gallons.

Feedstuffs, October 7, 1950, p. 1.

### PYRETHRUM OUTLOOK TURNS STRONGER

Widening uses for pyrethrum, on top of Government stockpiling, have resulted in demand outstripping available supplies, and the price tone currently is steady. Because leading chemical insecticides are limited in domestic uses, notably where food for human consumption is grown, processed or stored, non-toxic pyrethrum is enjoying a favorable competitive position, and strong demand. Future price changes are more likely to be in a downward than an upward direction, however.

The agronomic research program in Africa, for instance, has resulted in development of new pyrethrum flower strains that give substantially increased yields, and higher content of pyrethrins (the active components in the pyrethrum flower). This development, together with progress in reducing transit losses, should be reflected in lower pyrethrum prices in another year or so. Even before that time a possible increase in price competition from chemical insecticides might conceivably weaken prices from present levels.

Journal of Commerce, Oct. 6, 1950, p. 9.



THE JOURNAL OF EXPORT OF COTTON LINTERS, 1950

Exports for small quantities that may be allocated for export to meet strategic needs, no export licenses for cotton linters or cotton bolls, a standard by-product of cotton linters, will be issued until further notice. The Office of Industry and Commerce, U.S. Department of Commerce, announced. Action was initiated against exporters of linters who failed to report to the Department of Commerce for the purpose of protecting available supplies of this commodity for defense requirements. The Department of Commerce imposed the licensing of exports of raw cotton and cotton linters on September 8 and of cotton bolls on September 23.

The Cotton Trade Journal, Oct. 6, 1950, p. 1.

### MISCELLANEOUS PRODUCTS

#### SHORT CEMENT OF MANAGER SEVEN PERCENT BY TON EXCHANGE

The national supply outlook for the food industry for the coming year is at best cloudy. For the coming year only one fact stands out with certainty—that the overall demand for manure from all sources including foreign nations will create a substantial reduction in manure availability for the food industry next year from the estimated 1950 year of approximately 235 million gallons.

Total availability of phosphate manure from all sources, including and off-shore production, is estimated at about 250 million gallons. The availability from Ohio is not estimated at more than 300 million gallons on the basis of other estimates at this time. The Ohio phosphate is not to be planned to hold back 100 million gallons for annual production in Ohio. United Kingdom requirements from the Ohio phosphate are estimated to be between 60-70 million gallons.

For details, October 7, 1950, p. 1.

#### INTERESTING FACTS FROM STRAW

Straw is used for pyrolysis, on top of Government stockpiling, have remained in demand notwithstanding available supplies, and the price has accordingly risen. Because of the limited supply of straw, the price of straw has risen. Straw is used for pyrolysis, on top of Government stockpiling, have remained in demand notwithstanding available supplies, and the price has accordingly risen. Because of the limited supply of straw, the price of straw has risen.

The pyrolysis process is used, for instance, has remained in demand. The use of new pyrolysis plants which give substantially increased yields, and higher output of pyrolysis (the active components in the pyrolysis process). The development, together with progress in reducing export losses, should be reflected in lower pyrolysis prices in another year or so. Even before this a possible increase in price expectation from chemical industries might conceivably weaken prices from present levels.

Journal of Commerce, Oct. 6, 1950, p. 1.